

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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# Judge Grants Anti-Toll Road Group A New Hearing

AUSTIN — The “Keep Texas Moving” advertising campaign funded by the Texas Department of Transportation continues to be challenged by Texans Uniting for Reform and Freedom (TURF).

Travis County State District Judge Orlinda Naranjo on Oct. 18 granted TURF’s request for continuance and a new hearing in 90 days.

For months, the group has sought to stop TxDOT from spending state funds to promote the TransTexas Corridor, a multibillion dollar, multidecade privately funded tollroad plan.

“TxDOT is waging a one-sided political ad campaign designed to sway public opinion in favor of the policy that puts money in TxDOT’s own coffers,” said TURF founder and executive director Terri Hall.

A Texas law prohibits state agencies from using public fund-

ing for political advocacy, Hall said.

But Kristina Silcocks, a transportation attorney with the Office of the Attorney General who is representing TxDOT, said the “Keep Texas Moving” campaign is permitted under another state law that allows marketing of toll projects.

**Extra check may come for some**

The Teacher Retirement System board of trustees will meet Nov. 9 to decide whether to give eligible annuitants an extra check in January.

The independent actuary for the TRS said a supplemental 13th check can be paid to those who are eligible without hiking the active member contribution rate.

The check amount would be equal to a normal monthly pension payment, up to a maximum of \$2,400.

The supplement was made possible by SB 1846 sponsored by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, and Rep. Vicki Truitt, R-Keller, in the 80th Texas Legislature.

**Handwashing is key to prevention**

By now, Texans have gotten wind of this health issue in a variety of media, but it will not hurt to mention it here.

Handwashing is important. A particularly stubborn form of “staph” bacteria is out and about, spread through person-to-person contact or via contact with contaminated surfaces.

“Regular hand washing is the best way to prevent staph transmission,” said Marilyn Felkner, a Texas Department of State Health Services epidemiologist.

“Getting back to the basics, using soap and water, or hand sanitizer, is essential in facilities where people work, live and play close together.”

Find guidelines to keep staph in check at [www.mrsaTexas.org](http://www.mrsaTexas.org).

**Perry names education chief**

Texas has a new education commissioner: Gov. Rick Perry named Robert Scott to the post on Oct. 16. Scott had been acting as commissioner since predecessor Dr. Shirley Neeley resigned effective July 1. He served four years as chief deputy commissioner, managing daily operations for the Texas Education Agency.

**Think hard before you vote**  
 Here is one more plug for the Nov. 6 election: the subjects of all 16 proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot:

- Prop. 1: Transferring constitutional facilities funding for Angelo State University to the Texas Tech University System.
- Prop. 2: Authorizing general obligation bonds to finance student loans.
- Prop. 3: Annual 10 percent cap on increases in homestead

taxable value.

• Prop. 4: General obligation bonds for state agency construction and repair projects.

• Prop. 5: Allowing a temporary property tax freeze for smaller city redevelopment.

• Prop. 6: Property tax exemption for a personal vehicle used for business activities.

• Prop. 7: Selling property acquired through eminent domain to former owner at original price.

• Prop. 8: Revisions to home equity loan provisions.

• Prop. 9: Exempting residence homesteads of totally disabled veterans from property taxation.

• Prop. 10: Deleting constitutional references to county office of inspector of hides and animals.

• Prop. 11: Requiring legislators to cast record votes on final passage.

• Prop. 12: Authorizing \$5 billion in general obligation bonds

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
 By Ed Sterling

for highway improvements.

• Prop. 13: Allowing judges to deny bail in certain cases involving family violence.

• Prop. 14: Permitting judges reaching mandatory retirement age to finish their terms.

• Prop. 15: Authorizing general obligation bonds to fund cancer research.

• Prop. 16 Bonds for water and sewer services to economically distressed areas.

**THIS IS D.Q. COUNTRY SPECIAL**

**Banana Split**  
**\$1.99**

Offer good  
 Through Oct. 28



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**EAGLE LAKE DAIRY QUEEN**  
 100 Boothe Drive

*Let's Look Back...*

## 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

**October 6, 1983**

Mr. and Mrs. John Vanleck celebrated their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary September 22. A party was held in their honor on the evening of September 25 at the Heritage House where Mr. Vanleck now resides...

Karen and Keith Lampton of Alief are proud to announce the arrival of their second child, a son, born September 30 at Southwest Memorial Hospital in Houston. The young man's name is Travis Scott and at birth he weighed nine pounds, eight ounces and measured 22 inches at birth...

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Henske were pleasantly surprised Sun-

day, September 30 at a dinner honoring them on their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary...

Wilfred Luedecke celebrated his birthday October 1 with a BBQ at his home...

Mr. and Mrs. David Young of Houston spent Sunday September 18 visiting with Mrs. Johnnie Havens and Mrs. H.T. Neiswender. Mr. and Mrs. Young are long time friends and had visited Europe with Mrs. Havens and Mrs. Neiswender several years ago...

The home of Mrs. Guy C. Conner was the setting for a lovely tea shower honoring Ann Williams bride elect of Bill L. Olson October 1 in Garwood...

Ms. Betty Courville of Louise and Mr. and Mrs. James Courville of Hallettsville announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Ann to Christopher Alan Gold son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gold of Nada...

The Farris 1912 was the setting on Saturday, October 1 as Michael Grigar was honored on his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party given by his wife, Melody...

Mr. and Mrs. Butch Herman were honored by their daughters, Connie and Wendy Herman on their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Sunday at the home of Connie Herman...

Little Miss Stephanie Braden celebrated her second birthday on Sunday, September 25 by her par-

ents Ann and Earl Braden, Jr., at their home in Eagle Lake...

Funeral services were held for Thomas J. Roberts of El Campo son of Mrs. Doris Roberts of Eagle Lake, September 17 at 10 a.m. in St. Philips Catholic Church in El Campo with Rev. James Brunner officiating...

C.D. Davis passed away October 2 at 6:15 a.m. in Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Funeral services were held from the Chapel of Dulany Funeral Home October 4 at 3 p.m. with Donald W. Postell officiating. Interment was in Lakeside Cemetery...

Funeral services were held for Anthony Ray Norman, 26, of Dallas on October 1 at 1 p.m. from Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church in Eagle Lake with Rev. Rudolph Kiser, Sr., officiating.

**October 8, 1959**

Members of the 1959 Eagle Lake Eagles football squad are Stanley Whitley, James DeShazo, Delano Frnka, Teddy Wiese, James Booker, Jimmy Wiese, Melvin Sunderman, Gary Wright, Lewis Kopecky, Johnny Davidson, Wayne Cor-

man, Johnny Meitzen, Mike Cheatham, Steve Taylor, John Allen Rolf, Robert Moland, manager Joe Rebeck, Jr., Robert Adkins, Denny Parker, Curtis Laughlin, Billy Uzzell, Walter Sommer, Melvin Wright, Gerry Clipson, Clinton Duyka, Simon Barela. Ben Cobb was the coach

and Victor Scott was the assistant coach...

Miss Mary Agnes Dromgoole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Dromgoole, is the sweetheart of the Eagle Lake chapter of Future Farmers of America for 1959-60...

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Dexter Anderson will leave Thursday for a two-week trip. They plan to attend the E.U.B. National Men's Congress in Wichita, Kansas and then go on to Canada...

Mrs. H.L. Parker opens Parker Insurance Agency and will represent the Newark Insurance Company of New York...

During a trip to Matagorda, Mrs. D.R. Wintermann finds a bottle on the seashore that was purposely dropped in the mid-Atlantic in celebration of the bi-centennial anniversary of the Guinness Export Ltd., Liverpool England...

Mrs. A.J. Struss landed the largest bass and Tommy Lewis catches the largest catfish to win the second annual Fishing Contest sponsored by the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce...

Miss Phyllis Johnson and Gayle Thomas were honored with a buffet supper October 4 in the Simon Sinclair home. Hosts and hostesses were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mann and Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Sommerlatte.



**Enter First National Bank's Friday Give Away!**  
**The winner will receive a Rice Raider stadium seat.**



**One winner every Friday**  
**Entries Now Being Accepted**  
**Drawings will be held weekly during the Rice Raider football season.**

**Drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Ask your friendly teller for an entry ballot.**  
 (need not be present to win; no transaction necessary to enter)  
 FNB employees and immediate family are not eligible to enter.



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**In response to the Lavaca County letter by Marie Day from Shiner**

You are correct, Marie. There has not been a need, up until now, to have a Groundwater Conservation District to manage the groundwater in Colorado County. Consumption by the citizens, industry, and agriculture has not been so great as to cause concern.

As the population increases, agriculture and industry use increases and, therefore, the need to help manage the use of that water becomes apparent for everyone's benefit.

Texas state law, or “rule of capture”, allows property owners to take as much water as they can or want as long as it is not wasted or used maliciously.

The method the state provides to “protect groundwater” is through a Groundwater Conservation District.

This does not mean the state is in control, but the control is in the hands of the locally elected board with input from the citizens.

As more land is developed for urban sprawl, the more need there is for some rules about well spacing.

The surface water in the Colorado River is almost completely allocated. New urban developments will use groundwater as their water source.

Can water marketers pump your groundwater dry? Without a GCD, water marketers can pump all the water they want. There are no restrictions.

The GCD's DO NOT SUPPLY THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR

**WATER MARKETING.**

The people interested in marketing the water supply the infrastructure. If you don't think water marketing is cost effective, do the math.

A bottle of water (0.9 oz) costs \$.79 to \$1.29 a bottle. There are 325,851 gallons of water in an acre-foot. At 9 oz per bottle of water, there are a little over 14 bottles in a gallon, at an average of \$1.00 a bottle, that comes to \$4,561,914.00 per acre-foot.

If a marketer makes 1 cent per bottle, that comes to \$45,619.00 per acre-foot of water. If one well can pump 8 acre-feet in a 24 hour period, this sounds cost effective to me!!!

Water is a vital resource for cities, and they are willing to

spend huge amounts of money to ensure an adequate supply.

In a recent project report, the cost to deliver treated water to SAWS (San Antonio Water System) from this area is between \$1,332 and \$1,438 per acre-foot per year depending on the location of the off-channel storage facility. S

an Antonio needs at least 150,000 acre-feet per year. THERE IS NOT A GCD SUPPLYING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THIS PROJECT. The city of San Antonio will pay for it.

Groundwater use in Colorado County is increasing, and as it does, the need to protect that water increases. This will benefit all the citizens.

Vivian Spanihel  
 Temporary Board Member

**Reader Concerned About GCD Taxes**

Dear Voters,

The effort to persuade the community to vote for a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) seems to be in full swing. The temporary directors are out speaking to groups all across the county “educating” people on the benefits of the GCD and telling the people that their taxes for such a district will be capped at 3 cents per \$100 valuation, and that it will probably be much lower.

All this sounds really good, but it also sounds very familiar. I don't know of any taxing entity that when they got started said our plans are to grow and grow. We will be needing a building of

our own, a larger and larger work force, legal services, vehicles and health benefits etc., etc. yet that is the story of every taxing authority with which I am familiar. The latest figures I heard were that the average taxpayer works until mid May to just pay his taxes, before he ever gets to keep anything for himself and his family.

Now we are being asked to create another bureaucracy and place another tax upon ourselves.

I think the worst part of all is that we are not even given the chance to vote on whether or not we want the GCD to be funded with property taxes as we have

*Continued on page 3*